XIV. Rhynchota from the Australian and Pacific Regions. By W. L. DISTANT.

[Read June 1st, 1881.]

Having recently had an opportunity, through the courtesy of Dr. Schmeltz, of examining the Rhynchota contained in the Museum Goddefroy of Hamburg, which is principally, if not entirely, derived from the above regions, I have, by the additional aid of specimens in my own collection, been enabled to add a number of new species to these faunas. The following is the first contribution, and is interesting in adding four Australian species to the genus Menida, a genus hitherto considered peculiar to the Ethiopian, Oriental, and Eastern Palearctic Regions.

HEMIPTERA-HETEROPTERA.

PENTATOMIDÆ.

PENTATOMINÆ.

Niarius illuminatus, n. s.

Dark fuscous; head with the lateral margins and a central longitudinal line, pronotum with the lateral margins and two small central levigate spots on disk situated a little before middle, scutellum with two impunctate spots near basal angles and apex, base of costal margin of corium, connexivum, lateral margins of sternum, lateral margins and disk of abdomen beneath, coxe, legs, and rostrum, luteous. Antennæ black, with the outer margin of basal and bases of two apical joints luteous. The basal joint of the antennæ does not reach the apex of the head. Head transversely striate; pronotum thickly and finely punctate; lateral margins ampliated and sinuated; base slightly gibbous and subrugulose. Scutellum finely punctate, and faintly and transversely wrinkled near base. Corium finely punctate. Under side of head, sternum, and lateral margins of abdomen, thickly punctate.

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In some specimens the fuscous surface is much irrorated with luteous. Long. 10 mm.

Hab. Australia, Gayndah.

This species differs from *N. umbrosus*, Stål, by the colour of the head, basal margins of the corium and legs; and from *N. venosus*, Stal, by the shortness of the first joint of the antennæ and markings, &c.

Cephaloplatys fasciatus, n. s.

Ovate, ochraceous, irregularly and darkly punctate. Head with the lateral lobes ampliated, reflexed, sinuated on the lateral margins, much longer than central lobe, cleft at apex, and thickly and darkly punctate; punctures arranged somewhat in longitudinal series; central lobe, excepting base, almost impunctate. Antennæ red or ochraceous; second and third joints subequal, a little shorter in length than fourth and fifth, which are also subequal. Pronotum with the lateral margins ampliated, gradually widening from base, somewhat straight, acutely pointed at anterior apex, and sparingly punctate; the whole pronotal surface is thickly and coarsely punctate, but a lineal series of closely placed and very dark punctures extends tranversely across disk between lateral angles; a double series of like punctures are situated on the inner side of each lateral margin, and there is also an anterior submarginal row of the same. The pronotum is much deflexed anteriorly. Scutellum with an elongate black fovea at each basal angle, and a series of six longitudinal rows of dark punctures commencing at base, of which two are lateral and terminate midway on lateral margin; the two central are widest, but amalgamate midway, and terminate in a narrow row at apex; on each side of these is a linear and unbroken row terminating on apical margin. Corium with some irregular longitudinal rows of darker punctures. brane creamy white, with the nervures darker. Under side of body red or ochraceous; head and sternum coarsely, and abdomen finely, punctate; head and sternum with a submarginal and irregular black fascia, slightly punctate on prosternum, almost obsolete on mesosternum, and levigate or very slightly punctate on metasternum. Abdomen with two broad submarginal, and a central and more broken and irregular, black fasciæ. Legs slightly

spotted with fuscous; rostrum reaching posterior coxe, pitchy at apex. Long. 11 to 12 mm. Lat. 6 mm.

Hab. Queensland, Rockhampton, Sidney.

Besides the very distinct markings, this species differs from others of the genus by the elongated form of the body. In general appearance it resembles species of the genus Gellia of the subfamily Phyllocephallina.

Stollia trimaculata, n. s.

Ochraceous, coarsely and darkly punctate. much shaded with fuscous, coarsely punctate, transversely striate on disk, and with the central lobe a little longer than the lateral. Antennæ with the first three joints ochraceous, fourth and fifth fuscous, fourth pale at base; second joint a little longer than the third, fourth subequal with second, and shorter than fifth. Pronotum with the lateral angles rounded and faintly subprominent, the lateral margins luteous and levigate, a somewhat raised and levigate transverse line on disk between lateral angles, and two fuscous patches on disk near anterior margin. Scutellum with a pale luteous levigate callosity in each basal angle, and three fuscous spots on apical margin, two lateral and one central. Base of costal margin of corium luteous and levigate. Membrane fuscous. Head beneath shining black and punctate; sternum ochraceous, thickly covered with coarse dark punctures, lateral margins of prosternum and underside of base of costal margin of corium luteous and levigate. Abdomen with the disk black and thickly and finely punctate, lateral margins broadly and including stigmata, anal appendage. and lateral margins of metasternum luteous and punctate. Legs luteous, sparingly spotted with fuscous. Rostrum luteous, with the apex pitchy. Long. $5\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Hab. Sidney.

This species is allied to S. distacta, Dall., and belongs to that section of the genus in which the margins of the abdomen, including the stigmata, are pale and unicolorous.

Stenozygum persignatum, Walk.

Strachia persignata, Walk., Cat. Het. ii., p. 347, 96.S. exelestes, Voll., Versl. Ak. Amst., Nat. (2), ii., p. 186, 54.

Var. a. Head with the luteous marks much smaller, and the central one between the eyes wanting. Pronotum with the central luteous line, but without the irregular spots on disk.

Hab. Queensland, Peak Downs.

Stenozygum australis, n. s.

Bluish black. Head with an elongate pale luteous spot on each lateral lobe near apex, and a transverse spot of the same colour on each side in front of eyes. Lateral lobes somewhat widely cleft at apex. Antennæ black, basal joint shortest, remaining joints subequal. Pronotum with the anterior margin narrowly, the lateral margins more broadly, and each side of the posterior margin near lateral angles, narrowly luteous; a luteous transverse spot on each side of anterior margin, a small pale luteous spot near centre of lateral margins, and a central 1-shaped spot of the same colour on disk, the base of which rests on posterior margin, and the apex reaches rather more than midway; the disk is somewhat coarsely but sparingly punctate, with a deep transverse impression. Scutellum with a large central dark luteous levigate spot at base, from which extends a narrow pale luteous line not reaching apex, but crossed by a narrow fascia of the same colour, thus forming a cruciform mark; the apex also pale luteous. Corium with the base of costal margin luteous, which colour is then continued in a subcostal streak till it joins a large transverse spot on apical margin, but which does not extend to apical angle. Membrane bluish black, apical margin pale, fuscous hyaline. The scutellum is gibbous and levigate at base, after which it is obscurely punctate and transversely rugulose; the corium is thickly and finely punctate. Under side of body pale luteous; lateral margins of head beneath, a large subquadrate spot on prosternum, mesosternum and metasternum, a submarginal fascia and lateral portion of the incisures, basal margin of apical segment, femora, excepting base, and some linear lines on tibiæ, bluish black. Rostrum bluish, with the base paler. Long. 6 mm.

Hab. Queensland, Peak Downs.

Var. a. Head immaculate, central pale discal fascia to pronotum, lineal without the transverse base.

Hab. Queensland, Peak Downs.

This species differs from S. persignatum, Walk., the other known Australian species, by the more elongate body and absence of luteous callosities at basal angles of scutellum; in general shape and hue it is more allied to S. speciosum, Dall.

Catacanthus viridicatus, n. s.

Head, pronotum, and scutellum dark bluish, with green reflections; corium bright emerald-green. Antennæ dark greenish, sparingly pilose; second joint a little shorter than third, and subequal in length to fourth (fifth wanting). Lateral lobes of the head with a few irregular transverse sulcations. Pronotum levigate, very faintly and obscurely wrinkled towards lateral and anterior margins; lateral margins and two small transverse linear impressions near anterior margin luteous. Scutellum levigate, sparingly punctate towards apex, which is luteous; a raised central longitudinal line commences about the middle and terminates in a hollow impression a little before apex. Corium thickly punctate and subrugulose. Membrane with the basal half apparently dark cupreous from reflection of dark surface of abdomen, apical half pale fuscous. Connexivum luteous, with a bluish quadrate spot on incisures. Body beneath and femora luteous; abdomen with a marginal row of blue spots at incisures, and two transverse green streaks on anal appendage; apices of femora and tibiæ dark greenish. Rostrum dull greenish, basal joint and under side of second joint luteous. Ventral spine long, about reaching anterior coxe. Long. 25 mm. Lat. pronot. angl. 11 mm.

Hab. Tonga Islds.

This species is peculiar in having pale coloured femora, a character possessed by no other species of the genus.

Menida consignata, n. s.

Black. Head above with a central and two lateral lines, the last suddenly turned inwards from near eyes to base, a small transverse spot in front and hind margin of eyes; pronotum with anterior and lateral margins, a lateral submarginal band, and a large irregular spot on disk; scutellum with about basal half and apical fourth; connexivum; lateral margins of head and body beneath,

a large spot at base of head, and a sternal row of three spots situated at coxe, abdomen with a discal row of three spots on each side situated on third, fourth, and fifth segments, and legs luteous or testaceous. Antennæ ochraceous, pilose, second and third joints subequal, fourth and fifth longest, incrassated and subequal. Head, pronotum, and scutellum somewhat sparingly but deeply punctate, corium thickly punctate, somewhat ochraceous at base, under side of body punctate, disk of abdomen levigate. Rostrum about reaching posterior coxe, pitchy, first and second joints subluteous. Long. 6 to 7 mm.

Hab. Queensland, Peak Downs.

This species belongs to the group of the genus containing the African species, M. loriventris, Germ., &c.

Menida plebeia, n. s.

Ochraceous, punctured and mottled with fuscous. Head broad, thickly and darkly punctate, margins of central lobe distinctly bordered by dark punctures; antennæ pale ochraceous, first three joints subequal in length, fourth and fifth longest, incrassated and fuscous at apices. Pronotum coarsely and darkly punctate, with the anterior and lateral margins narrowly levigate and luteous, and a broad basal fascia and two small transverse fasciæ on disk near anterior margin dark fuscous. Scutellum coarsely and darkly punctate, with a pale luteous narrow levigate transverse fascia at base, on each side of which is a small dark fuscous spot, with a small luteous levigate spot in each basal angle, a large pyramidal dark fuscous spot on disk, and apex pale luteous and levigate. Corium coarsely and darkly punctate, with an indistinct submarginal longitudinal narrow fuscous streak. Connexivum pale luteous, with a faint testaceous stripe at incisures, and segmental spines dark fuscous. Membrane cupreous. Under side of body and legs luteous, under side of head and lateral margins of sternum coarsely and darkly punctate. Abdomen beneath darkly punctate, punctures gradually decreasing towards disk, which is levigate, a margianl row of small testaceous spots and stigmata also testaceous. Rostrum reaching posterior coxe, luteous, fuscous towards apex. Long. 6 mm.

Hab. Sidney. Peak Downs.

Menida purpuraria, n. s.

Head with the Pale testaceous, coarsely punctate. central lobe margined with black half-way from apex, from thence these black lines are outwardly reflexed and continued to base as fuscous streaks; margins of lateral lobes very narrowly pale levigate, a subfoveate impression at inner margin of eyes covered with black punctures. Antennæ testaceous, fourth joint with the apex pitchy (fifth wanting), second and third joints subequal in length. Pronotum with the lateral angles subprominent, the lateral and anterior margins luteous and levigate (the anterior margin more narrowly so), and two transverse fuscous oblong impressions on disk forked externally; excavated near lateral margins, and slightly gibbous at base. Scutellum with three pale levigate spots at base, one central, and one at each angle, apex pale, apical margin very pale and levigate. Membrane pale fuscous. Body beneath and legs ochraceous, lateral margin of head, sternum, and abdomen broadly and coarsely punctate, the punctures on head and sternum fuscous. Ventral spine and basal abdominal spot bright testaceous; abdominal margin with a row of fuscous spots at segmental incisures. Rostrum reaching ventral spine, with the tip pitchy. Long. 6 mm.

Hab. Queensland.

Allied to the preceding species, M. plebeia, but differs by the less robust head, broader body, absence of levigate fascia at base of scutellum, different colour, &c.

Menida personata, n. s.

Dull ochraceous, more or less covered with dark Head coarsely punctate, with the lateral margins and five raised lines on disk luteous and levigate. Pronotum somewhat coarsely punctate and slightly rugulose, lateral and anterior margins narrowly luteous and levigate, with two angulated fuscous patches on disk near anterior margin, which are pointed inwardly, and enclose a small luteous levigate spot. Scutellum sparingly but coarsely punctate, with an irregular testaceous spot near base, and two others of the same colour near apex, narrowly divided in the centre. Corium sparingly and coarsely punctate, with a large irregular testaceous spot on inner margin parallel with the subapical spots of the scutellum. Membrane pale fuscous, with the nervures darker. Under side of body and legs luteous, lateral margins of head, sternum, and abdomen broadly and sparingly covered with dark punctures, a lateral row of fuscous spots on each side of sternum near coxe, and a series of faint transverse segmental testaceous streaks on each side of abdomen. Femora spotted with fuscous. Antennæ with the basal joint luteous, second and third testaceous, fourth and fifth black, with their bases testaceous; third joint a little longer than second, fourth and fifth slightly incrassated. Head broad, rounded in front, body broad and ovate. Long. 7 mm. Lat. 5 mm.

Hab. Queensland, Peak Downs.

This species is allied to that section of the genus which is represented by the Oriental species, M. histrio, Fabr.